

Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA

§ 1218.52

for its maintenance and functioning, and to enable it to exercise its powers and perform its duties in accordance with the provisions of this subpart. Such expenses shall be paid from funds received by the USACBC.

(e) With approval of the Secretary, the USACBC may borrow money for the payment of administrative expenses, subject to the same fiscal, budget, and audit controls as other funds of the USACBC. Any funds borrowed by the USACBC shall be expended only for startup costs and capital outlays and are limited to the first year of operation of the USACBC.

(f) The USACBC may accept voluntary contributions, but these shall only be used to pay expenses incurred in the conduct of programs, plans, and projects. Such contributions shall be free from any encumbrance by the donor and the USACBC shall retain complete control of their use.

(g) The USACBC may also receive funds provided through the Department's Foreign Agricultural Service or from other sources, with the approval of the Secretary, for authorized activities.

(h) The USACBC shall reimburse the Secretary for all expenses incurred by the Secretary in the implementation, administration, and supervision of the Order, including all referendum costs in connection with the Order.

(i) The USACBC may not expend for administration, maintenance, and functioning of the USACBC in any fiscal year an amount that exceeds 15 percent of the assessments and other income received by the USACBC for that fiscal year. Reimbursements to the Secretary required under paragraph (h) are excluded from this limitation on spending.

(j) The USACBC may establish an operating monetary reserve and may carry over to subsequent fiscal periods excess funds in any reserve so established: *Provided* that the funds in the reserve do not exceed one fiscal period's budget. Subject to approval by the Secretary, such reserve funds may be used to defray any expenses authorized under this part.

[65 FR 43963, July 17, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 37119, July 17, 2001]

§ 1218.51 Financial statements.

(a) As requested by the Secretary, the USACBC shall prepare and submit financial statements to the Secretary on a periodic basis. Each such financial statement shall include, but not be limited to, a balance sheet, income statement, and expense budget. The expense budget shall show expenditures during the time period covered by the report, year-to-date expenditures, and the unexpended budget.

(b) Each financial statement shall be submitted to the Secretary within 30 days after the end of the time period to which it applies.

(c) The USACBC shall submit annually to the Secretary an annual financial statement within 90 days after the end of the fiscal year to which it applies.

[65 FR 43963, July 17, 2000, as amended at 66 FR 37119, July 17, 2001]

§ 1218.52 Assessments.

(a) The funds to cover the Council's expenses shall be paid from assessments on producers and importers, donations from any person not subject to assessments under this Order, and other funds available to the Board including those collected pursuant to § 1218.56 and subject to the limitations contained therein.

(b) The collection of assessments on domestic blueberries will be the responsibility of the first handler receiving the blueberries. In the case of the producer acting as its own first handler, the producer will be required to collect and remit its individual assessments.

(c) Such assessments shall be levied at a rate of \$12 per ton on all blueberries. The assessment rate will be reviewed, and may be modified with the approval of the Secretary, after the first referendum is conducted as stated in § 1218.71(b).

(d) Each importer of fresh and processed blueberries shall pay an assessment to the USACBC on blueberries imported for marketing in the United States, through the U.S. Customs Service.

(1) The assessment rate for imported fresh and processed blueberries shall be the same or equivalent to the rate for